

15 October 1962

Prof. Mildred E. Mathias
Department of Botany
University of California
Los Angeles 24, Calif.

Dear Mildred:

We shall be delighted to have Frans Stafleu visit us here in November and John Gilmour in April. We enjoyed very much Laurie Johnson's visit. We had him to dinner at our place a couple of evenings, giving due regard to his ulcer, took him on a tour of the Garden and on a quick run up the canyon to the foot of the ski tow on Old Baldy. I presume he is now somewhere in the East with Eames or Carl Wilson.

If it is agreeable to you and Stafleu, we should be most happy to have him give us a seminar on Monday or Tuesday afternoon, November 12th or 13th. I inquired about a possible payment, but apparently our budget does not include that item. Lee will work on the Dean of the Graduate College to see if he can pry any funds loose there. We can supply transportation and take care of meals without difficulty.

I am delighted to hear that the Council approved of Peter as editor of Brittonia. He will be a good one.

I have been getting about southern California a bit. In addition to climbing Old Baldy and San Geronimo, I spent five days in the field with Percy Everett collecting seed and other material. We collected up the coast as far as Carmel, pushed into the Santa Lucias as far as Tassajara Springs, out across the Coast Ranges, to Big Valley, and Greenhorns to Walker Pass, and returned to Claremont via Mohave, Palmdale, and Cajon Pass. I am even learning something about your rich flora. It is somewhat more diverse than Iowa's. It was nice to get out of the haze and smog for a few days. I had almost forgotten what clear, clean air was like,

Our best regards to you and the other taxonomists in the big city. Some day I may get up enough courage to venture into L. A.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Thorne